[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): By whom and when? *Laughter.*)

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is what the Excise Commissioner says. If further information is needed, it requires notice.

Land Customs Regulation.

64. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Land Customs Regulation was passed;

(*b*) whether any rules under the Regulation have been framed as yet;

(*c*) if they have not been framed, how the Regulation is being worked; and

(*d*) whether a special officer was not deputed to Madras to acquaint himself with the rules and the working of the Regulation in Madras, and if so, when?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Land Customs Regulation was passed in 1091. No rules, notifications, forms, *etc.*, have yet been published under the Regulation except rules under Section 13 relating to licenses for the storage of dutiable goods at or near the frontier for sale. With a view to remedy the defect, Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar, Assistant Excise Commissioner, was entrusted, in 1097, with the work of drafting the rules, notifications, *etc.*, under the above Regulation. He was permitted to visit Madras, Pondicherry and British Cochin to study the working of the Customs Rules in the Customs houses in those places and to prepare and submit draft rules for the approval of Government. He has accordingly submitted them to the Excise Commissioner who is scrutinising them before submission to Government.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): My question in part (*c*) has not been answered. How is the Regulation worked?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): With the help of the rules framed under section 13. They are the only rules so far framed. There are also the provisions of the Regulation and with their help the law is worked at present.

Private Practice of Medical Officers.

65. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is true that medical officers who treat well-to-do private patients and receive big fees from them give them medicines from hospitals, when they can afford to buy medicines from outside?

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MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Medicines are given free to well-to-do patients also to the extent available in the hospitals.

Alleppey Commercial Canal.

66. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total length of the Alleppey canal known as the *Alleppey Commercial Canal*;

(*b*) what portion of this canal has been completed, and how much still remains to be completed;

(*c*) when the work of improvement of this canal was begun, and when it is likely to finish;

(*d*) the amount spent till now on the improvement of the canal, and the amount likely to be spent for completing its improvement; and

(*e*) whether the unfinished portions have been maintained from year to year, and if so, what the amounts spent on the improvements during 1097 and 1098 are?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 2¼ miles roughly

(*b*) 1 mile and 271 running feet (except for a short length on one side in the third section); 6 furlongs remain to be done.

(*c*) Medam 1086. It is likely to be finished in about five years.

(*d*) The amount spent till now is Rs. 4,85,000. About 3 lakhs more will be required to complete the improvements.

(*e*) Yes. The expenditure on the maintenance of the unfinished portion of the canal was Rs. 663 in 1097, and Rs. 560 in 1098 including the finished portions.

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